

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Norfolk Division**

De VINCHE ALBRITTON,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No. 2:18cv689

WANDA ROLLINS, *et al.*,

Defendants.

De VINCHE ALBRITTON,

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No. 2:20cv463

M. CARPENTER, *et al.*,

Defendants.

SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE ORDER

These cases have been referred to the undersigned for a settlement conference. In order to facilitate the just and expeditious resolution of the cases, it is ORDERED as follows:

1. All parties¹ and their lead counsel are required to appear before the undersigned via Zoomgov remote proceedings² for a settlement conference **at 9:30 a.m. on January 28, 2026**, for

¹ Plaintiff is currently incarcerated. Counsel shall make arrangements directly with the correctional facility to have Plaintiff present on the Zoom call either by video or by telephone only.

² Important information about participating by Zoomgov is outlined in paragraph 12 of this Order. **Please ensure you are using the most recent version of the Zoom software prior to the scheduled event.** Older versions may not connect and may cause delay in your participation if you upgrade on the day of the scheduled event.

the purpose of conducting discussions, in good faith, towards a compromised resolution of the cases.

2. **EACH PARTY MUST BRING TO THE SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE A PERSON WITH FULL AND COMPLETE AUTHORITY TO SETTLE THE CASE.** Local Civil Rule 83.6.

3. The authority of persons in attendance shall include the ability to completely resolve all facets of the case without the need to seek or obtain additional authority from persons not in attendance. An insured party shall appear together with a representative of the insurer with authority to negotiate and conclude a settlement. An uninsured corporate party shall appear by a party representative with authority to negotiate and conclude a settlement. If there are issues involving medical or other liens, plaintiff shall attempt to have a representative for the lienholder present or available by telephone with authority to negotiate and conclude a settlement.

4. Prior to the settlement conference, the parties should make a good faith effort to negotiate and settle the cases. Specific proposals and counter proposals beyond the initial offer and demand should be exchanged.

5. The substantive negotiations at the settlement conference are confidential and may not be used by the parties for any purpose other than settlement. Federal Rule of Evidence 408.

6. The parties must:

- a. **Submit a brief memorandum of five pages or less directly to the chambers of the undersigned via facsimile to 757-222-7188 or email to Deborah_Crowder@vaed.uscourts.gov (do not file in the clerk's office) by noon on January 26, 2022.** Do not serve a copy of the letter on the

opposing party unless you wish to disclose your settlement position.

- b. The memorandum will be considered and maintained on a confidential basis and will be destroyed upon conclusion of the conference, regardless of outcome.
- c. The memorandum should address the following:
 - i. The identity of those expected to attend the settlement conference and their relationship to the party. **Counsel are responsible for providing all attending parties with the invitation link to Zoomgov that was previously emailed to them by the court.**
 - ii. An objective overview of the basic allegations and relevant facts;
 - iii. A realistic assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of each party's position;
 - iv. A summary of settlement discussions to date; and
 - v. A statement of settlement expectations (to include proposed settlement offers).
- d. If short excerpts from expert reports or relevant documents would assist the undersigned in evaluating the parties' settlement position, they may be attached to the memorandum.

7. If the cases present unusual circumstances, or if you have any questions, counsel are encouraged to set up a conference call with the undersigned.

8. At the settlement conference, counsel must be prepared to provide a brief oral presentation outlining the factual and legal highlights of each case to be followed by separate

confidential caucuses.

9. The parties must be prepared to reduce to memorandum form at the conclusion of the conference the basic terms of any settlement agreement. In the alternative, the court may require counsel and the parties to state the terms of the settlement agreement on the record.

10. If ex parte or other confidential discussions occur during the settlement conference, the undersigned will not conduct any other hearing or make any further decisions in this case after beginning the settlement conference. The undersigned will not disclose the information received during the settlement conference to anyone without the permission of the party providing the information. The discussions occurring in the settlement conference may not be used by or against any party. Federal Rule of Evidence 408.

11. If a party appears at the settlement conference without having complied with the requirements of this Order, the court may continue or cancel the settlement conference, and may assess against the noncomplying party, attorney, or both, a monetary sanction which may include the fees and expenses incurred by the other parties in attending the settlement conference.

12. NOTICE – Recording/Broadcasting Prohibitions

The operation of any video or audio recording device by any lawyer, litigant, participant, or observing member of the press or public, is prohibited during remote proceedings, including settlement conferences. Therefore, with the exception of authorized Court personnel, any person remotely participating in, or listening to, a remote Court proceeding may not record, or cause to be recorded, any such proceeding. Furthermore, no person participating in, or listening to, such a proceeding may rebroadcast, live-stream, or otherwise disseminate any live or recorded audio or video of the court proceeding.

13. If the parties agree upon a settlement (before or after the settlement conference), Counsel for one of the parties shall immediately notify the court by electronically filing a Notice of Settlement on CM/ECF in each case.

The Clerk shall forward a copy of this Order to all counsel of record.



/s/ Douglas E. Miller
United States Magistrate Judge

DOUGLAS E. MILLER,
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Entered: November 26, 2025